

## CIRCUIT COURTS

### GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Source of Funds	FY01 Adjusted Base	FY02 Recommended	% Change Over FY01	FY03 Recommended	% Change Over FY02
GPR	77,493,100	73,302,900	-5.4	73,302,900	0.0
TOTAL	77,493,100	73,302,900	-5.4	73,302,900	0.0

### FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION SUMMARY

Source of Funds	FY01 Adjusted Base	FY02 Recommended	FTE Change From FY01	FY03 Recommended	FTE Change From FY02
GPR	511.00	511.00	0.00	511.00	0.00
TOTAL	511.00	511.00	0.00	511.00	0.00

### AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The Circuit Court is Wisconsin's court of general jurisdiction and consists of 241 judicial positions in sixty-nine judicial circuits. Each county in the state is a circuit, with the exception of Pepin and Buffalo, Menominee and Shawano, and Forest and Florence, which are paired to form three circuits. Where the volume of litigation warrants, a circuit consists of more than one branch (judge). Of the sixty-nine circuits, thirty-nine contain multiple branches.

The Circuit Court has original jurisdiction in all criminal, civil, juvenile, family and probate cases unless exclusive jurisdiction has been given to another court. The court has appellate jurisdiction over orders and judgments of the municipal courts and the responsibility to review decisions and orders of state administrative agencies.

For purposes of management, the Circuit Courts are divided into ten administrative districts. Each district has a chief judge appointed by the Supreme Court and a District Court administrator who administer the business of the judicial branch in that district in cooperation with the director of state courts at the direction of the chief justice. The first judicial district (Milwaukee County) also has an assistant district court administrator.

## **CIRCUIT COURTS**

### **GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Court Interpreters: County Reimbursement
2. Budget Efficiency Measures
3. Standard Budget Adjustments

#### **ITEMS NOT APPROVED**

4. Law Clerk Reimbursement Pilot
5. Reserve Judge Salaries

**Table 1  
Department Budget Summary by Funding Source (in thousands of dollars)**

	ACTUAL FY00	ADJUSTED BASE FY01	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
			FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	\$72,646.8	\$77,493.1	\$76,773.3	\$77,806.5	\$73,302.9	\$73,302.9
State Operations	48,979.9	53,826.2	52,516.4	52,523.6	49,586.0	49,586.0
Local Assistance	23,666.9	23,666.9	24,256.9	25,282.9	23,716.9	23,716.9
TOTALS-ANNUAL	72,646.8	77,493.1	76,773.3	77,806.5	73,302.9	73,302.9
State Operations	48,979.9	53,826.2	52,516.4	52,523.6	49,586.0	49,586.0
Local Assistance	23,666.9	23,666.9	24,256.9	25,282.9	23,716.9	23,716.9

**Table 2  
Department Position Summary by Funding Source (in FTE positions) (4)**

	ADJUSTED BASE FY01	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
		FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00
TOTALS-ANNUAL	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

**Table 3  
Department Budget Summary by Program (in thousands of dollars)**

	ACTUAL FY00	ADJUSTED BASE FY01	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
			FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03
1. Court operations	\$72,646.8	\$77,493.1	\$76,773.3	\$77,806.5	\$73,302.9	\$73,302.9
TOTALS	72,646.8	77,493.1	76,773.3	77,806.5	73,302.9	73,302.9

**Table 4  
Department Position Summary by Program (in FTE positions) (4)**

	ADJUSTED BASE FY01	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
		FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03
1. Court operations	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00
TOTALS	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00	511.00

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

**1. Court Interpreters: County Reimbursement**

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendation			
	FY02		FY03		FY02		FY03	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	590,000	0.00	1,220,000	0.00	50,000	0.00	50,000	0.00
TOTAL	590,000	0.00	1,220,000	0.00	50,000	0.00	50,000	0.00

The Governor recommends providing additional funding for court interpreter reimbursement costs incurred by the counties and clarifying the qualifications for interpreters.

**2. Budget Efficiency Measures**

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendation			
	FY02		FY03		FY02		FY03	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	0	0.00	0	0.00	-2,691,300	0.00	-2,691,300	0.00
TOTAL	0	0.00	0	0.00	-2,691,300	0.00	-2,691,300	0.00

The Governor recommends reducing the agency's largest GPR state operations appropriation in the amounts shown to create additional operational efficiencies.

**3. Standard Budget Adjustments**

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendation			
	FY02		FY03		FY02		FY03	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	-1,548,900	0.00	-1,548,900	0.00	-1,548,900	0.00	-1,548,900	0.00
TOTAL	-1,548,900	0.00	-1,548,900	0.00	-1,548,900	0.00	-1,548,900	0.00

The Governor recommends adjustments to the agency's base budget for: (a) full funding of continuing position salaries and fringe benefits (-\$1,565,000 in each year); and (b) fifth week of vacation as cash (\$16,100 in each year).

**ITEMS NOT APPROVED**

The following requests are not included in the Governor's budget recommendations for the Circuit Courts.

Decision Item	Source of Funds	FY02		FY03	
		Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
4. Law Clerk Reimbursement Pilot	GPR	0	0.00	396,000	0.00
5. Reserve Judge Salaries	GPR	239,100	0.00	246,300	0.00
<b>TOTAL OF ITEMS NOT APPROVED</b>	<b>GPR</b>	<b>239,100</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>642,300</b>	<b>0.00</b>